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24 September 1963

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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Britain: (The Denning report on the Profumo affair, which will be released later this week, probably will exonerate the cabinet as individuals, but, in any case, will provide Labor a basis for charging once again that Macmillan has been lax in maintaining security.)

(The decision to publish the report promptly and almost in its entirety probably reflects the government's determination to terminate the Profumo case on as conclusive a note as possible.)

(The report's final impact on Macmillan's position is unclear. The US Embassy comments that some public sympathy for the prime minister has been developing in recent weeks, but that a deep-seated concern over the questions of leadership and succession persists within the ranks of the Conservative Party.)

(The embassy also notes that the move to release the Denning report together with the current upswing in the economy have stirred speculation that a snap general election will be called this fall. Arguing against an election at this time are the public opinion polls, which continue to show the Conservatives trailing Labor by a substantial margin.)

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NOTES

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Common Market: A West German Economics Ministry official recently warned a US official that the Common Market may soon establish regulations on rice that could harm US trade much as its tariff on poultry has done. Designed to protect Italian and French rice producers by supporting an EEC price for rice well above the world market level, the regulations could stimulate enough Common Market production of rice for food purposes to satisfy all domestic needs. From August 1962 to May 1963 the US sold over \$11 million worth of rice to the EEC countries.

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DAILY BRIEF

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USSR: The Communist youth organization, Komsomol, has been called upon to assist in the completion of more than 50 mineral fertilizer plants before the end of 1963, according to a TASS announcement. TASS compared the call-up with the mammoth "new lands" campaign of 1954-58 during which hundreds of thousands of youths were pressed into service. While the "new lands" program could make good use of inexperienced labor, the effectiveness of such labor in the construction of chemical plants is questionable.

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